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ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸਤਿਗੁਰੂ ਰਾਮ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੀ ਸਚਾਇ

RENAISSANCE OF THE KHALSA

FIRST FREEDOM-STRUGGLE

KUKA MOVEMENT

150th

1857

Year

2007

"Sikh philosopher and reformer and the first Indian to use non co-operation and boycott of the British merchandise and services as a political weapon.

Encyclopaedia Britanica Vol. 8, Page 142



REVIVAL OF THE KHALSA AND BEGINNING OF FREEDOM STRUGGLE

April 1857 A.D. (Baisakhi 1814 Vikrami), Sri Bhaini Sahib.
He (Sri Satguru Ram Singh Ji) made people give up smoking and keep unshorn hair. Particularly fortunate were those who partook of the Nectar and entered the Sikh fold.
His fame spread apace.
People in multitude became his disciples.
Manifold grew the Khalsa.
His disciples, soaked in the bliss of Nam, gave up opium, hashish, poppy, liquor and various other intoxicants.
They would not eat meat.
They would not steal.
They forswore adultery and deception.
They practiced saintliness.
The Golden Age had returned.
(Panth Prakash: Gian Gian Singh Ji)

BAPTISING WOMEN WITH AMRIT (ELIXIR)

Sri Satguru Ram Singh Ji baptized women by offering Amrit (Nectar) on June 1, 1863 A.D. at Village Bhan in Ludhiana Dist.



BEGINNING OF THE MASS MARRIAGE TRADITION

Sri Satguru Ram Singh Ji was pioneer to initiate the tradition of mass marriages by reciting 'Anand Kara' Shabada from the Adi Granth.
He performed six marriages on June 2, 1863 A.D. in Village Khoti.

It was Sri Ram Singh Kuka who pioneered the concept of mass marriages that was followed by countless more Sikhs.
(Giani Gian Singh Ji)





CHALLENGING THE BRITISH

In June 1863 A.D., The British Government had confined Sri Satguru Ram Singh Ji to Sri Bhaini Sahib. His five Subas (lieutenants) whom he had deputed to promote Sikhism and propagate the freedom struggle, were also confined to their respective villages. The movements and activities of the consequent 17 Subas were also likewise restricted. After this, the British Deputy Commissioner of Ludhiana visited Sri Bhaini Sahib and tauntingly asked Sri Satguru Ji: "Baba Sahib! What will you do now?" Satguru Ram Singh, raising his eye-brows, quickly and fittingly retorted: "Get lost you Britishers! Each and every home (of my country) will now have a Ram Singh."

THE HISTORICAL MARTYDOM AT MALERKOTLA

Sixty-six Namdhari Sikhs were brutally martyred without any trial with canons at Malerkotla on January 17-18, 1872 A.D. "The British authorities had issued orders that Kurka rebels be blown-off by canon."

The rebel Sikhs were delighted to hear of this order. They were indeed overwhelmed with joy—

As moths rush towards a lamp-flame, unrestrained they made for the cannon. In high spirits, they hurried forward fearlessly to sacrifice their lives. This I saw with my own eyes where people had gathered in a large number.

The onlookers watched and were filled with wonder."

(Porth Prakash, Language Dept., Punjab PP 515-18.)



EXILE TO BURMA

The British Government had ordered the deportation and exile of Sri Satguru Ram Singh from his native country to the British Burma on January 17, 1872 A.D. under section III of the Bengal Regulation Act of 1818 A.D. From Sri Bhaini Sahib he was taken to Allahabad, Calcutta and then to Burma as a royal State prisoner.

A scene showing the departure of Sri Satguru Ji (along with some of his close associates) from Sri Bhaini Sahib on a bullock-cart and his anguished Sikh disciples.

(Inset) Sardar Mihan Singh trespassing the barricade in spite of strict vigilance to enter the State prisoner's bungalow at Margul (Burma) in 1881 A.D.





After the exile of Sri Satguru Ram Singh Ji (January 1872 A.D.), a permanent police post was set up at Bhaini Sahib. The British Government meted out untold and severe atrocities on Namdhari Sikhs. In that difficult time Satguru Hari Singh Ji nurtured the cause of Sikhism and endeavoured to keep the flame of Freedom Struggle on. Restrictions were imposed even on chanting of Path and holding Diwan meetings by Namdhari Sikhs. Disregarding the Government orders, the Akhand Pathis were held clandestinely. For this offence of performing Akhand Pathis, the Sikhs were awarded seven years imprisonment. Many were imposed fines. Several Sikhs breathed their last in the jails.



ORGANIZED COMMUNITY KITCHEN AT SRI BHAINI SAHIB

Sri Satguru Ram Singh Ji arranged a nonstop langar (community kitchen) at Sri Bhaini Sahib in 1881 A.D. At the time of catastrophic famine of 1899 A.D., food was served to the famine hit people hailing from Bhangarh area of Rajasthan.

On seeing the langar, The British officer (D.C., Ludhiana) told Satguru Hari Singh Ji, "You are indeed doing a dignified work of feeding a large number of people. I offer you a patch of 2500 acres for this community kitchen".

"Do you mean that we should feel comfortable with just a few acres of land and let you occupy entire India", was the reply of Satguru Hari Singh Ji.

Sri Satguru Partap Singh Ji organized interactive conferences for Hindus-Sikhs-Muslims and motivated them to remain together and thus made efforts to invalidate the 'Divide and Rule Policy' of the British.

A scene from the Guru Nanak Ali Community Conference at Sri Bhaini Sahib (1934 A.D.)





SATGURU PRATAP SINGH JI RENDERED FULLEST COOPERATION TO EVERY ORGANIZATION STRUGGLING FOR COUNTRY'S FREEDOM

Sri Satguru Pratap Singh Ji and Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru taking part in a procession of State People's Conference at Ludhiana (1939 A.D.)

At Sri Bhaini Sahib (L. to R): Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, Master Tara Singh Ji, Satguru Pratap Singh Ji, and Dr. Saifuddin Kitchluji in 1939 A.D.



WARM WELCOME TO THE I.N.A. FREEDOM FIGHTERS AT LAHORE (1946 A.D.)

Sri Satguru Ji welcoming the Generals of *Azad Hind Fauj* (Indian National Army) after their absolution from a court case: Standing in front row (L. to R): Mrs. Dhillon, General Shah Nawaz Khan, Captain P.K. Sehgal, G.S. Dhillon and Sri Satguru Pratap Singh Ji. Standing in back row is seen Satguru Jagjit Singh Ji.



Saba Sohan Singh Bhakna (President Ghadar Party) is being blessed by Sri Satguru Jagjit Singh Ji at Bhakna



Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru expressing his gratitude to Sri Satguru Jagjit Singh Ji for his having contributed whole heartily towards the Defense Fund (Delhi, 1962 A.D.)

